



#### HESSEL OPENS "WRESTLE"

The new, \$10 million, 17,000-square-foot expansion of the Hessel Museum of Art at Bard College in Annandale-on-Hudson, N.Y. opens this Sunday, Nov. 12, 2006. The inaugural exhibit is titled "Wrestle," focusing on 150 works by artists who tackle issues of self and other drawn from the collection of museum patron Marieluise Hessel, ranging from Vanessa Beecroft and Cindy Sherman to Isaac Julien and Jason Rhoades.

Set to run through May 27, 2007, the Hessel exhibit is helmed by Trevor Smith, an independent curator, and Tom Eccles, the former head of New York's Public Art Fund who now oversees Bard's curatorial studies program. Noting that the Hessel collection has served, over the years, as material for the center's budding curators to test their chops, the curators focus on the "unexpected juxtapositions" informed by the "contradictory forces that emerged in the selection of works."